



3003 Bern
GS-DETEC

POST CH AG

Mrs Patricia Espinosa
Executive Secretary of the
United Nations Convention on Climate Change
UN Campus
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1
53113 Bonn

Germany

Bern, 1 April 2021

Dear Executive Secretary,

Dear Patricia,

I wish to thank you for our interesting discussion regarding the possibilities and modalities of how to advance the UNFCCC process amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. I appreciated the opportunity to express Switzerland's potential interest to host a future session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC. I thank you warmly for sharing the handbook entitled "How to COP", which will be a precious resource as we further examine this possibility.

Let me also reiterate our appreciation of the UNFCCC Secretariat's efforts in supporting an efficient UNFCCC process despite the restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. With COP 26 only a few months away, Switzerland fully supports conducting our negotiations in virtual format. We should do our utmost to support those delegations and negotiation groups that experience difficulties in preparing and coordinating ahead of virtual negotiations. For this reason, we encourage the UNFCCC Secretariat to also support the coordination and preparation of negotiation groups. Switzerland is ready to support the organization of virtual negotiations, group coordination as well as a possible additional in-person session of the Subsidiary Bodies later in the year in order to bring us closer towards COP26.

Switzerland is fully dedicated to an ambitious outcome at COP 26, and we stand ready to support you as UNFCCC Executive Secretary in the preparations of this successful conference.

Yours sincerely,



Simonetta Sommaruga
Federal Councillor